DRY GOODS.

AN IMPORTANT SPECIAL PURCHASE!

—OF—

GENTLEMEN'S

Shirts, Collars, Cuffs and Ties!

TO BE CLOSED OUT

AT LESS THAN HALF PRICE!

A fortunate special purchase at virtually our own prices enables us to offer the patrons of our Gents' Furnishing Goods Department some of the MOST WONDERFUL BARGAINS EVER OFFERED in this line, comprising as they do the following lots of NEW AND STYLISH NECKTIES, COLLARS, CUFFS AND SHIRTS, that will be placed on sale this morning at ONLY ABOUT HALF WHAT EQUAL STYLES AND QUALITIES REGULARLY SELL FOR.

GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS.

NECKWEAR.

At 10c.

GENTS' SILK AND SATIN TECK SCARFS, largely assorted patterns, regular price 25c, will be closed out at 10c each.

At 15c.

GENTS' ALL-SILK TECK SCARFS, assorted patterns, regular price 35c, will be closed out at 15c each.

At 25c.

GENTS' SILK AND SATIN TECK SCARFS, newest spring patterns, extra value for 50c, will be closed out at 25c each.

At 35c.

GENTS' SILK AND SATIN TECK SCARFS, newest spring patterns, good value for 75c, will be closed out at 35c each.

At 15c.

GENTS' SILK AND SATIN FOUR-IN-HAND SCARFS, satin lined, regular value for 25c, will be closed out at 15c each.

At 25c.

GENTS' SILK AND SATIN FOUR-IN-HAND SCARFS, satin lined, regular value for 50c, will be closed out at 25c each.

At 35c.

GENTS' SILK AND SATIN FOUR-IN-HAND SCARFS, satin lined, latest spring patterns, regular value 75c, will be closed out at 35c each.

SHIRTS.

At 30c.

GENTS' UNLAUNDRIED WHITE SHIRTS, with double backs, reinforced linen fronts and heavy muslin, regular price 50c, will be closed out at 30c each.

At 40c.

GENTS' UNLAUNDRIED WHITE SHIRTS, with double backs, reinforced linen fronts, extra quality muslin, regular price 75c, will be closed out at 40c each.

At 50c.

GENTS' UNLAUNDRIED WHITE SHIRTS, with reinforced linen fronts, double backs, felled seams and superior workmanship, regular price $1, will be closed out at 50c each.

At 50c.

GENTS' LAUNDRIED WHITE SHIRTS, reinforced linen fronts, double backs, extra heavy muslin, regular price 85c, will be closed out at 50c each.

At 65c.

GENTS' LAUNDRIED WHITE SHIRTS, with fancy pique bosoms, largely assorted patterns, regular value $1 25, will be closed out at 65c each.

At 65c.

GENTS' LAUNDRIED WHITE SHIRTS, with pleated fronts, all linen bosoms, superior workmanship, regular value $1 25, will be closed out at 65c each.

At 40c.

BOYS' AND YOUTHS' LAUNDRIED WHITE SHIRTS, with reinforced linen fronts, all sizes, regular value 85c, will be closed out at 40c each.

COLLARS AND CUFFS.

At 5c.

GENTS' FOUR-PLY LINEN COLLARS, all sizes, newest styles, will be closed out at 5c each.

At 5c.

GENTS' FOUR-PLY, LINEN CUFFS, all sizes, newest shapes, will be closed out at 5c per pair.

NOTE.—A careful perusal of the above items will convince discerning buyers of the importance of an IMMEDIATE SELECTION.

O'Brien & Co.

MURPHY BUILDING,

Market Street, corner of Jones,

SAN FRANCISCO.

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BOARD OF REGENTS.

The Campus to Be Improved. Farmers' Meetings.

The Board of Regents of the University of California held its monthly meeting yesterday, Regent Phelps in the chair.

The Finance Committee reported that the recommendation to appropriate $5000 of the Reese Fund to the improvement of the library could not be acted upon at present owing to the lack of money. It approved the recommendation to appropriate $250 from the General Fund for the purpose of microscopes and dissecting instruments, and asked that bills amounting to $57,325 49 be audited and ordered paid. The recommendations contained in the report were all approved.

The Committee on Grounds and Buildings presented a letter from the Professor of Civil Engineering and Survey, relative to the proposed improvements on the campus, together with maps and specifications descriptive of the contemplated improvements. From these and the accompanying report of the committee it was shown that the cost of the work would be $1950 60, whereas only $1800 had been set aside for the purpose. On the recommendation of the committee the plans were approved, and an additional appropriation made of $150 60. This sum will provide for the filling, grading and enlarging of the present campus; the building of a driveway around it, the removal of the trees on the north side, and the beautifying of the surroundings by the planting of shrubbery.

On the recommendation of the same committee $2809 was appropriated for the furnishing of the analytical departments of the chemical laboratory; Secretary Bonte was granted a three months' leave of absence on account of sickness, and Professor Flagg was appointed Associate Professor of Classical Philology, at a monthly salary of $200 from the commencement of the next academical year.

Regent Phelps left the chair at this point to advocate certain allowances for the Lick Observatory. These consisted of $200 for repairs to the present telegraph line from the coming year and $1000 for the construction of additional storage for the water supply, now rendered necessary by the noticeable falling of the springs consequent upon the dry winter. The board voted both amounts as asked for.

A voluminous report was then read from the Committee on Congressional Land Grants relating to the steps taken to acquire their full quota of land, its disposal and the sale of certain portions at a minimum rate of $5 per acre. Following this is a special committee on the appropriation of funds provided by the Morrill bill made a part report, in which, in compliance with a request of the State Grange, they recommended that Professor Wickson, lecturer of agriculture, be authorized to organize and carry into effect a system of farmers' meetings similar to those in Wisconsin and other Middle States. A new of the numerous provisions to be made and the importance of the subject it was resolved, after considerable debate, to have the whole report printed when ready and distributed among the Regents so they could act intelligently upon the matter at the next meeting.

On the recommendation of the Academic Senate the following arrangement of terms and vacations was adopted:

That the week of term or vacation be the calendar week; that the summer vacation be one of twelve weeks; that the winter vacation be one of three weeks; that the fall term close on the Saturday preceding Christmas; that the academic year be separated into two terms: a fall term of nineteen weeks and a spring term of eighteen or nineteen weeks, as the case may be; that the arrangement of term and vacation go into effect in August, 1891.

The scheme was arranged in reference to the high schools, the public and the equalizing of the terms, together with the fact that June is the vacation month of business and professional men.

Pardoned by the President.

Sai Gam, the Chinese procuress, who was sentenced by Judge Hoffman in the United State court four years ago to five years' imprisonment in the Alameda County Jail, was released yesterday by United States Marshal Long, in accordance with a pardon granted by President Harrison. She was pardoned on condition that she leave the country, but the Government officials have received no instructions to return her to China.

The Selma Irrigator says: The California Legislature is doing the State excellent service. It is accomplishing but little work.

REAL ESTATE.

Auction Sale by Easton, Eldridge & Co.—Transfers.

The sales-rooms of Easton, Eldridge & Co. were crowded yesterday when the sale of selected properties, previously announced, took place at auction. Bidding was brisk, and little time was lost in disposing of the various offerings. Following is the result of the sale:

Western Addition handsome residence, 1915 Webster street, south of California, $7000; French flats, 1206 and 1208 Fulton street, west of Scott, $6500; Mission paying property, 230 Langton street, north of Bryant, $3090; Mission business corner, southwest corner of Church and Hancock streets, $1475; Mission French flats, 308 and 310 Vicksburg street, south of Twenty-fourth, $3275, with an "if"; Golden Gate Park corner, southeast corner H street and Seventeenth avenue, $1875; Ashbury Heights residence lot, west line of De Long street, or Lucy, south of Waller, $1250; Mission residence lots, east side of Sanchez, north of Nineteenth, $1340 and $1300; S street front, between Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth avenues, 240x100, $1250; south side speculations—west side of Ninth avenue, north of O street, $320; south side of N street, west of Thirteenth avenue, $185; 4 lots, east line of Thirty-fifth avenue, north of R street, $125, $125, $135 and $150.

SALES.

O. F. von Rhein & Co. sold the southwest corner of Jackson and Laguna streets, 95:8x137:6, for $35,000. This property is a marine-view residence lot in the same block where the Crocker brownstone mansion is in course of construction. A magnificent house will be erected upon it by the purchaser.

McAfee, Baldwin & Hammond report the following sales: Lot 25x100, on Webster and Haight streets, $3400; lot on Fourteenth avenue and J street, $1100; half a 50-vara lot on Clay street, Presidio Heights, $9500; lot on Sacramento and Spruce streets, 27:6x107:6, $1300; lots 41-2-3-4, Block 8, Holly Park, $1900; lot on Paul street, near Stanyan, 25x127:6, $2100; lot on Page, near Franklin, 27:6x120, with improvements, $15,000; eight lots in the Homestead Tract, $4800; three lots on Geneva, $500 each, and a block in Southside for $6000.

BUILDERS' CONTRACTS.

Thomas W. Sweeney with Ransome & Cushing, to build Panorama, Strawberry Hill, $8000.

H. W. Miller with Allan Macdonald, to build on east line of Buchanan street, 110 north of Green, $2425.

MARKET STREET.

Judge Hoge Refuses to Invalidate the Extension Proceedings.

On December 16th D. H. Wulzen brought suit against the Board of Supervisors, praying it be adjudged that it has exceeded its powers and jurisdiction in passing Order 2319, providing for the taking and assessment of the plaintiff's property, with that of others, for the purpose of extending Market street, and that said action be annulled; furthermore, that all the proceedings taken in regard to the extension of the said street be declared void, and in the meantime that the Board be restrained from further action in the matter.

The plaintiff's contention was that the proceedings were contrary to the previsions of the Code of Civil Procedure, and never received the approval of the Mayor.

After hearing the petition yesterday Judge Hoge rendered judgment in favor of the defendant.

Still Arguing.

John Flournoy, who is defending Carl Lundquist, the slayer of Minnie Lohue, continued his argument yesterday, but the case will probably close to-day. Flournoy spent considerable time reviewing the testimony of the physicians who took a position against the defendant and his plea of epilepsy. Of Dr. Bowie he passed anything but a complimentary criticism, Dr. Bowie having testified that in six years he had treated 600 cases of epilepsy.

Will Be Arraigned on Saturday.

The case of Sidney Bell, alias Thomas, has been transferred from Department 11 to Department 12 of the Superior Court, and Saturday has been set for his arraignment. Bell is accused of murder while on robbery bent.

"CRAZY FOR SLEEP."

Frank Almy Ends a Life of Great Suffering.

He Was a Cripple With a Pathetic Life Story. Suicide Was Long Contemplated by Him.

Long suffering from a complication of diseases prompted Frank Almy to commit suicide at an early hour yesterday morning by shooting himself through the head. For many years he had roomed at 18½ Sacramento street. He arose yesterday and at 5:30 o'clock entered the restaurant and coffee-saloon of Anton Lettunich at 6 Sacramento street, and ordering a cup of tea, paid for it.

"Take the tea away," he said to the proprietor of the place, "and I'll drink it when I come back." Then he went out to a closet in the rear, and placing the muzzle of a bulldog pistol against his temple sent a bullet through his brain. The report of the pistol attracted Lettunich, and going out to the closet he found Almy unconscious, but sitting upright and holding the pistol in his right hand. Special Officer Mulcahey was summoned and removed the wounded man to the Receiving Hospital, where he died five minutes after his arrival.

A PATHETIC LIFE STORY.

The story of the life of Almy is peculiarly pathetic. He was about 37 years of age and a protege of Captain I. W. Lees, chief of the detective force. He was born in Indianapolis, Ind., and was reared by two maiden aunts, his parents having died when he was very young. He received a thorough musical education and studied dentistry. Twelve years ago he came to San Francisco and secured work as a house painter.

While painting at the top of a high dwelling the scaffolding gave way and he fell nearly forty feet, sustaining a compound fracture of the left leg. He was removed to St. Mary's Hospital and, after spending all the money he possessed at that place, he was transferred to the City and County Hospital. There it was found necessary to amputate the fractured limb below the knee. It was while recovering from the effects of the surgical operation that the deceased met Captain Lees, who was in the habit of making the rounds of the hospital.

Captain Lees took the unfortunate young man to his home, where he remained for one year. At the end of that time Almy expressed a determination to do something for himself. So Captain Lees gave him money and he started a news business at the ferry landing, also employing several boys to sell papers for him. Almy was a man of sober and frugal habits and saved money for a rainy day.

REMEMBERED HIS BENEFACTOR.

He always regarded the home of Captain Lees as his own, and usually took dinner there on Sunday. It was no wonder that the unfortunate cripple remembered his benefactor before putting an end to his sufferings. On the bureau in his room at 18½ Sacramento street was found the following letter:

Dear Friends—Good-by; I am worn out with suffering, with four or five different complaints to blame, at last rheumatism all over my body. I am crazy for sleep. I was not asleep last night when they came to my door, but was very hard. Dr. Garwood, please give all my effects to Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Lees; they will find my wishes made out in my bureau drawer. I made them out long before I expected to do this. I am nervous trying to write this, not from fear but suffering; so good by all, and try not to think too hard of poor FRANK ALMY.

P. S. You will find plenty of money in my purse for all expenses, and pay the doctor all I owe him; the rest take and dispose of as my last will in the bureau direcs. Good-by, Captain; I was driven to it with suffering. God bless you all for your kindness to me. FRANK.

On the reverse side of the sheet the following lines were written:

Good-bye, dear friends. FRANK.

I cannot stand this terrible itching and suffering and no sleep. I shall try and go down to the coffee-stand, and there end my suffering existence in the closet. FRANK.

BEQUESTS MADE BY ALMY.

The will alluded to by the deceased made a number of bequests to persons who had befriended him. To Corporal Arne, who had often assisted him at the ferry, he gave a valuable painting, and to Captain Lees he gave a gold-headed cane and other personal effects and appointed him administrator without bonds. The estate is valued at $1600, about $1000 of which is on deposit in the Hibernia Bank. The money in bank was signed over to Mrs. I. W. Lees on January 8th, which shows that Almy had contemplated suicide as early as that time.

After his leg was amputated below the knee Almy suffered from a painful affection of the nerves in the stump of the injured limb. The pain was frequently so great that he was obliged to take morphine for relief. Coroner Garwood was acquainted with the deceased and prescribed for him for several years, and he last treated him for rheumatism.

From the Receiving Hospital the remains of Almy were taken to the Morgue, where an inquest was held during the afternoon. After hearing the testimony of those who had known the deceased, the Coroner's jury found that he committed suicide while temporarily insane, caused by intense suffering.

SEEKING INFORMATION

About California and What It Can and Does Produce.

A gentleman doing business in San Francisco and having a home in Sonoma County received a letter a few days since from a friend in Chicago asking for information about California, as it is his intention to "locate somewhere," and to this the following reply was sent:

Since you compliment me by saying that you "think" you can believe me, although a Californian, I will answer your several questions to the best of my ability. You say that yourself and two others wish to make a final settlement somewhere in California. You wish to locate where you can enjoy all those comforts for which the State is celebrated, and if possible you wish to be near enough to the land to raise oranges, olives, and in fact all kinds of California fruits. A healthy, pleasant climate, convenient sea bathing, etc., and you ask, "What is the matter with Santa Barbara, Los Angeles and Monterey, which are all in the Coast? Is it too cold?—will oranges grow there?" etc. Now, before answering you I will say this: There are in California two distinct kinds of Californians; one class are the so-called boomers. They believe in advertising the country for all that is out. They believe in the country, swear by it, and possibly exaggerate a little when speaking of this lovely State. The other class is called by the boomers sluvians. They are mostly old Californians, who believe in the country possibly more than the boomers, but they do not wish to sell out, and they think the best way to work for the interests of the State is to develop it first and let it speak for itself. They think the State is settling up fast enough. They are opposed to any scheme which would tend to fill up the State with a class of undesirable citizens, and they believe that those would most be deceived or assisted in any way to get them here would be undesirable. Now I suppose that I belong to the sluvians, so if I don't praise California as much as you expected I don't work. So will know the reason. Now you can get all that you ask for in any of the valleys around this bay; but you cannot find any one locality anywhere that will excel in all things, because different fruits require different conditions. My experience is that the best oranges are always grown where the summers are quite warm; in fact, I think too warm for comfort. So far Riverside, in Southern California, and Oroville and its vicinity, in Central California, appear to excel in oranges. As to olives, it is believed that they will do well everywhere on the low hills and in the valleys in this part of the State. Thousands of acres are planted to olives in Sonoma and Napa counties, and many orchards are now bearing fruit. Apples are grown everywhere, but the best are raised in the foothills of the Sierra Nevadas or along the coast. I believe the apples of the future will be grown along the northern coast, near the ocean, for there the codlin moth does not seem to injure them. All other fruits seem to do well everywhere. This, in regard to fruits, is my opinion, based upon what knowledge I have on the subject. Santa Rosa is a pretty place, situated in the middle of a large fertile country where all the fruits of California are successfully grown. The town is improving fairly well at present, and will probably grow to be quite a city. There is no railroad to the coast, and no seaside resort tributary or convenient to the place as yet. With a railroad, Santa Rosa would be within one hour of the ocean.

In regard to climate along the coast, I will be able to give you some facts, gathered partly by personal observation during the last forty years, and partly from the new Coast Pilot by Professor George Davidson, than whom there is no better authority. The air near the water and the water of the ocean, at any given point along the coast, are almost exactly of the same temperature. As you go north along the coast, the water of the ocean increases in temperature about one degree Fahrenheit for one degree of latitude. This would make the ocean west of Santa Rosa between one and two degrees colder than at Santa Cruz and Monterey, which is a difference, I think, would hardly be noticed. There seems to be a popular idea, even in San Francisco and the northern valleys, that the coast north of here is much colder and more foggy than the southern coast. This idea is mostly erroneous, and arises from this: The people of San Francisco judge by their own climate, and people from the northern valleys, in going to the coast, go through the gaps in the coast range, and they judge the whole coast by what they find in these wind gaps. Their conclusion do not do justice to the northern coast climate, for it is well known that two-thirds of the time when these wind gaps are filled with fog the bald shore of the ocean, perhaps within a mile or two, especially to the northward, may be clear, warm and pleasant. I have seen, perhaps on a hundred different occasions, the entrance to San Francisco Bay, Tomales, Bodega and the mouth of Russian River enveloped in a dense fog, while two miles north of the latter, where the coast range is unbroken, the whole coast, and including a narrow strip along the ocean, would be clear and warm. Professor Davidson fully explains this in the new Coast Pilot. He shows that San Francisco, being the most complete break in the coast range, is by far the most foggy place along the coast; that when the fog is light along the coast it gathers and draws in in a dense mass through all the wind-gaps. The number of hours of fog in a given time can easily be known from the record of the various fog-horns along the coast, and we find that the fog-horn at the entrance of this bay is used more than twice as much as those either north or south of it, which are located abreast of an unbroken coast range. The same thing occurs at Humboldt Bay and also at the mouth of the Columbia River; in fact, everywhere along the coast where the coast range is high. In the southern part of the State the gaps are so numerous and so wide that the change is less noticeable. So you will see that as the winds and fogs of the northern coast do not rise over the hills, but only draw inland where there is a break in the range, all that is necessary to secure a pleasant seaside resort would be to locate it in one of the sheltered bights which are to be found all along the coast, but not in a wind-gap. As the northern part of the State is less developed in this respect than the south, and as the northern coast, being quite mountainous, is difficult of approach, no place is yet established, but there will be in time, and such a place will possess some advantages over those in the south, such, for example, as vast green forests, a bountiful supply of cool, pure water, etc. So I think, if the expectations of yourself and friends are reasonable, you ought to find a place to suit you in some of our bay valleys. Yours, ——

THE ORPHANS' FRIENDS.

Annual Meeting of the Managers of the Asylum.

The annual meeting of the San Francisco Protestant Orphan Asylum Society was held yesterday afternoon in the ladies' room of Calvary Church, Mrs. William Alvord presiding. After Rev. T. Chalmers Easton, D.D., had offered prayer the Secretary, Mrs. F. MacCrellish, read the fortieth annual report. It was that 295 children have been sheltered during the past year. In February, 1890, there were 189 in the asylum. Since that date 106 have been admitted, 54 have been removed by friends, 19 placed in private families, 10 adopted, 4 put to trades, and 2 have died, leaving 215 in the house—85 girls and 130 boys. The report referred in complimentary terms to the work of the matron, Mrs. McNear, also to the corps of teachers, and acknowledged the growing spirit of philanthropy in the community.

The Treasurer, Mrs. W. A. Haight, submitted the following report for the past year:

Receipts—February 1, 1890, cash on hand, $773 53; cash received: From State appropriation, $14,443 01; legacies, $11,650; interest on legacies invested, $9029 86; donations, $1 16 295; board of children, $2041; annual subscribers, $46; borrowed from Endowment Fund, $5000; total, $44,199 62.

Disbursements—Cash paid for repairs and improvements, $6219 54; taxes, $1810 14; salaries and wages, $6740; provisions, $9261 09; clothing, $3666 86; fuel, gas and water, $2689 55; miscellaneous expenses, $3402 05; legacies invested, $10,250; total, $44,048 23; cash on hand, $151 39; total, $44,199 62.

Balloting for the election of officers was then proceeded with, and resulted in the election of the following: Mrs. William Alvord, President; Mrs. C. V. Gillespie, First Vice-President; Mrs. C. O. Gerberding, Second Vice-President; Mrs. Henry Haight, Treasurer; Mrs. F. MacCrellish, Secretary.

Managers—Miss Ella L. Adams, Mrs. W. E. Davis, Mrs. Joseph Durbrow, Mrs. S. E. Dutton, Mrs. James R. Garniss, Mrs. D. W. Horsburgh, Mrs. Annis Merrill, Mrs. John Middleton, Mrs. W. R. Smedberg, Mrs. A. C. Wakeman, Mrs. A. T. Spotts, Mrs. Kirkham Wright, Mrs. Charles Holbrook, Mrs. R. J. Van Dewater, Mrs. Charles S. Laton and Mrs. Herman Schnabel were placed on the Honorary Board of Management.

DR. DAUPHIN'S SUCCESSOR.

Mr. Paul Conrad Elected President of the Louisiana State Lottery Company.

The Board of Directors of the Louisiana State Lottery Company met yesterday morning and elected Mr. Paul Conrad President, vice Dr. M. A. Dauphin, deceased.

Mr. Conrad has practically managed the affairs of this great corporation for the past five or six years. He has been an attache of the company in various capacities since 1870, and has earned the good will, confidence and respect of all with whom he has come in contact.

Born in this city in the year 1840, he entered the Confederate army soon after attaining to manhood, and his record as a soldier was as enviable and gallant as that of any of Louisiana's sons who wore the gray. He served with distinction to the end of the war. He was a member of Captain Henry St. Paul Chasseurs a Pied, a part of the Army of Northern Virginia, and is one of but a few of the survivors of that famous command. The company left New Orleans April 22, 1861, for Pensacola. Thence they went to Virginia, and other companies being attached, St. Paul's Battalion was formed. Their first big fight was at Seven Pines, where more than half the command were killed or wounded—among the former being young Bourges, Conrad's first cousin.

He is and always has been, strictly speaking, a man of the people. Of a genial and bleasant disposition and possessing rare business qualifications he is eminently fitted to fill the responsible position to which he has been elected. He is an honest, upright and faithful business man, whose word is as good as his bond, and, having a thorough knowledge of the intricate affairs of the corporation over which he now presides, the interests of the stockholders may be said to be in safe and careful keeping.

Numbers of all classes of people called at the lottery office yesterday afternoon to congratulate Mr. Conrad on his election.

Republishing this notice from the New Orleans *Picayune* the *Mobile Register* says:

The above appreciative notice a few words may be added. At the terribly hard fought battle of Sharpsburg (Antietam) Paul Conrad was desperately wounded, receiving a canister shot in the left shoulder which scraped every rib in his body. The ball entered just above the point of the shoulder blade and passed perpendicularly down the back to the waist, where it was found and cut out by the surgeons, but not until eighteen hours had passed after the wound was received. Though the ball weighed not more than ten ounces Mr. Conrad said that after several hours had passed he felt as if he had a ten-pound ball, a cannon and cartridge in his back, so great was the shock to his system. Upon his recovery from his wound he rejoined his battalion and served gallantly to the end of the war, participating in all the great battles with the Army of Northern Virginia.]

NUT-SHELL SHARPERS.

A Victim Sent Away to Prevent Prosecution.

Leonard T. Clayton and John T. Ryan, who swindled a countryman named John Berry out of $5, appeared for trial in Police Court 3 yesterday, the charge of conducting a swindling game having been reduced to petty larceny. Berry, the young fellow who was victimized by the sharpers, was not present. Judge Joachimsen issued a bench warrant for his arrest, and when young Berry was brought into court by an officer he made an explanation.

He said that he fell in with Clayton and Ryan two days after they had "raked him in" with their shell game. They had secured their release from the City Prison on bail and told him that he could have a good job over at the Judson Iron Works at Emeryville. "Never mind about the court," they advised him; "go over there and you can get $5 a day." The sharpers then gave him money to pay his fare to Emeryville, and told him it would not be necessary for him to come back to this city.

After hearing this side of the case Judge Joachimsen ordered the defendants into custody and continued the hearing of the case until to-day.

IN NEED OF MONEY.

The Academy of Sciences Asks Leave to Mortgage Its Property.

The California Academy of Sciences has petitioned for leave to mortgage its lot and new building on Market street, near Fourth, setting forth that the Trustees of James Lick's estate have in their possession upward of $1,000,000 due it, and also the California Society of Pioneers as residuary legatees; but that by reason of certain difficulties and litigation they have not discharged certain preceding trusts and cannot, therefore, properly pay to the petitioners any of the said residue. The Trustees are willing, however, to take a mortgage of $100,000 or less on the said property, and as it will be to the benefit of the academy to do so, the property being now subject to costly taxation and the money being necessary for the completion of the new building, the stated prayer is made. Judge Hunt has set Monday, at 10 o'clock, as the time for hearing the application.

Courts as Collection Bureaus.

The Judges who preside in the Police courts complain that certain jewelry and watch companies are in the habit of using the courts as a collection bureau. No less than half a dozen persons, who bought watches on the installment plan and who did not make prompt payments, have been arrested during the past week. The latest creditor to be brought up was A. Samuels, who was arrested yesterday on a charge of grand larceny, preferred by the Occidental Watch Company.

CONDITION OF TRADE.

The Young Year Continues to Make a Satisfactory Record.

Further Gain in Bank Clearings—Increased Failures—Coal Shaky—The Grain Markets—Coffee Trade.

We are still on the highway of prosperity, as far as the local bank clearings indicate. Last week they were $17,297,000, against $14,027,000 for the same week in 1890. The crops in most sections look well, no complaints have yet been heard from any quarter, hence the inference that everything is serene, is natural. We continue to make an unfavorable showing in the matter of failures, however. The Bradstreet Mercantile Agency reports 128 failures in the Pacific Coast States and Territories for the month of January, with assets $378,110 and liabilities $682,004, as compared with 69 for the corresponding month of 1890, with assets $190,068 and liabilities $406,623.

Following are the causes assigned for the failures: Incompetency, 32; inexperience, 12; inadequate capital for the business undertaken, 34; injudicious crediting, 7; personal extravagance, 4; neglect of business and bad habits, 7; excessive competition, 3; unfavorable circumstances, floods, fires, etc., 15; speculation, 11; fraud, 13.

THE GRAIN MARKET.

Exports of flour from this port in January were 110,121 pounds. For the first seven months of the present crop year they were 709,590 pounds, against 686,870 pounds during the same period of the previous crop year. Reducing the flour to a wheat basis we have total exports of wheat for the seven months of the crop year of 9,426,000 centals, valued at $12,881,500, against 10,104,330 centals at $13,314,000 during the same period in 1889-90.

Grain bags are not in good shape. We have a visible supply, according to a good authority, of 35,000,000 for the coming season, and it takes a pretty good grain harvest to consume more than this. Buyers hang back, trade is dull and 6¼ to 6⅝ cents are quoted for June-July delivery for standard Calcutta. It is learned that there are at present few if any new orders in Calcutta, and manufacturers are contemplating lowering prices. About 18,000,000 are contracted for this Coast so far, and the spot stock here is about 15,000,000.

Wheat is dull. The recent dry weather has led the farmers to hold back their grain despite the approach of assessment day in March, and to add to the dullness the shippers are buying very little. The only brisk inquiry is from the country millers who are in need of supplies.

Barley has advanced a fraction, but options are lower, and if the light drizzle of yesterday should become a general rain lower prices might result.

Common oats are selling lower than last week, but choice hold up. Offerings of medium descriptions are liberal.

Yellow corn is dull at last weeks prices. White corn is firm, being in demand for export.

Rye is quiet but steady.

Bran, middlings, ground barley and other feedstuffs are all firm and in quick demand.

GENERAL COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Hay is still firm, as the recent drying north wind checked the growth of grass. Besides, receipts are light.

Beans are quiet, and the flurry in whites and bayos of last week has subsided, and prices are lower again.

The potato market continues paralyzed. The warehouses and stores are full and the demand is slack. Oregon is sending in her potatos by the thousands of sacks, and Nevada has cut into our interior trade by shipping into the Sacramento Valley. Prices are low and weak. The "famine" so confidently expected by the speculators a few weeks ago is nowhere visible, and in its stead we have a glut.

Onions are much higher, on light receipts.

Butter declined slowly during the week, and at the close is easy. The late north wind operated against the free growth of grass and a momentary steadiness resulted, but it was of brief duration. Cheese continues scarce, firm and high. Eggs are considerably lower and dull, though receipts are not over 25 per cent of what they were at this date last year.

Honey shows no change, and the crop year is drawing to a close. The market is lightly supplied.

Fruits are dull. Apples and oranges are about the only domestic varieties now in season, and the demand for both is very slow. Oranges are particularly dull, owing to the cold weather.

Dried fruits are quiet at last week's prices, barring a further depreciation in peaches. The raisin market is clogged, weak and neglected. Nuts are quiet and unchanged.

Hops are dull at the old prices. Hides continue neglected and cheap. Wool is buoyant, but inactive for reasons already given.

The meat market shows no change from last week.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

Sugar is weak, the California Refinery having reduced its prices to the level of the other refinery. The inquiry is fair.

Coffee is inactive at the recently shaded prices. From the annual statement of R. Hochkofler the following interesting figures of the coffee trade of San Francisco in 1890 are taken: The imports were 150,716 bags, of which 129,812 were from Central America; the consumption 128,737 bags, the shipments East were 16,722 bags, and the stock in first and second hands January 1, was 24,087 bags. The fluctuations in strictly good Green Guatemala were from 20¼c to 21¾c, in Salvador 19c to 21½c, Costa Rica 20c to 21¾c. The average price of Guatemala was $21 18, unwashed Salvador $20 21, Costa Rica $20 08.

Rice continues more or less unsettled. Japanese and Hawaiian are higher, and the latter has lately had a good jobbing inquiry. Chinese descriptions are not particularly changed.

Canned fruits are quiet at the established quotations. Canned salmon is quiet, but the tone is firm, partly on the rumors of a combination among certain canning companies to regulate operations.

Provisions are inactive and quotations show little or no variation from last review.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Dry goods are quiet and dealers expect no improvement until the spring season has fairly opened.

Leather is weak and sole and harness are quoted lower.

Tin shows no further change. Quicksilver is lower, neglected and largely nominal at $49 and $50 per flask. The receipts of quicksilver at this port last month were 1565 flasks. For the same month last year the receipts were 823 flasks, against 1227 flasks in 1889. The exports by sea last month consisted of 378 flasks to Mexico of a value of $18,850, and one flask to Victoria, valued at $53.

All dealers in coal quote a weak market. In fact, the market is on the verge of a break, according to all accounts. Receipts are increasing, the dry warm weather has cut down the demand for house purposes, winter is almost over, and all circumstances are now against coal as they were in favor of it last fall. The weakness is well illustrated by the fact that most sellers now agree to give buyers a rebate should prices make a sudden drop. The private circular of L. L. Stewart reports a very weak market, as follows:

Transactions in foreign coal to arrive and for shipment have been very limited during the month, while the spot market has shown decided symptoms of weakness. The impression prevails that in the near future the supplies from the mines of British Columbia will be larger, buyers are consequently averse to contracting for Australian or English coal, unless at comparatively low figures.

Produce and merchandise exports from San Francisco in January by sea were $3,910,500, against $3,396,300, in January, 1890.

PASSED FORGED CHECKS.

Arrest of a Very Bold Young Man From Chicago.

Charles Thompson, a young man who arrived from Chicago three weeks ago, was arrested yesterday and booked on two charges of forgery. Soon after his arrival Thompson received $20 from the Commercial Hotel on a spurious check on the California Bank in favor of J. H. Robins, and signed by W. & J. Sloane & Co.

One week later he made an attempt to pass a forged check at the Lick House. Next he appeared at the Grand Hotel with a check purporting to have been signed by W. & J. Sloane & Co. and payable to W. H. Briggs, and on this received $65. These forgeries were reported to the police and the hotels warned to be on the lookout. Early yesterday morning the ubiquitous Thompson stepped up to Chief Clerk Warren at the Palace Hotel and asked that another check for $50, with the forged signature of Sloane & Co., be cashed.

Mr. Warren had been previously cautioned, and so he detained the check-bearer while the police were communicated with. Detective Rodgers and Officer Donnellan soon arrived and escorted the forger to the City Prison. The prisoner, who is quite a handsome man, refused to make a statement concerning his operations since he arrived in this city.

A Patent Suit Decided.

In the suit of Edward Norton and others against the Automatic Can Company, Judge Sawyer in the United States Circuit Court yesterday rendered a decision that an interlocutory decree for complainant be entered. The final disposition of the case was referred to the Master in Chancery to ascertain and report profits that the defendant has earned during the use of the infringed patents, and the amount of damages sustained.

ALONG THE RAIL.

A Reply Sent to the Trainmen's Grievances.

A complaint was filed with the Railway Commissioners yesterday against the Los Angeles Terminal Railway Company and the Southern California Railway Company. The question at issue is one of "reducing rates for the purpose of competition," which is a clear violation of Section 20, Article XII of the Constitution. Prior to June, 1890, the Southern California road carried passengers from Pasadena to Los Angeles and back for 45 cents for the round trip. In June the Los Angeles Terminal Company started and made a rate of 25 cents, with commutation tickets good for sixty rides, including Los Angeles car fare, at $5. The Southern California road met this rate, and in January both increased their rates to $7 for commutation tickets and the 25-cent round-trip tickets were announced to be good only should the round trip be made on the day of sale. Both companies announced that they had the commission's consent to the increase. The city of Pasadena by its complaint practically denies, if such consent was given, that it was legal, for the complaint is based on Section 20 of Article XII of the new Constitution, which prohibits the raising of rates when such rates were made in competition. The object of the article was to prevent a strong corporation from forcing a smaller out of business by lowering rates.

General Superintendent Fillmore of the Southern Pacific addressed a communication yesterday forenoon to the Trainmen's Grievance Committee, embodying the company's reply to a demand for a revision of the recently adopted wage schedule. The language of the document is exceedingly terse, and at times bitterly sarcastic. The complaints made by the trainmen on Saturday, and answered by Mr. Fillmore yesterday, were with the exception those which came up for discussion a few months since, and which were laid over by mutual consent as not being pertinent to the main question involved. In other words, the complaints formulated and laid before the officials on Saturday are those to which the company gave a negative answer at the meeting in September. A member of the committee pretty clearly defined the situation at the close of the conference referred to above, and on the day before the committee disbanded, when he said: "We got all we could out of them, and what has been before shall come after some other time." The Grievance Committee will hold a meeting at 9 o'clock this morning, and at 1 o'clock in the afternoon will meet Mr. Fillmore.

The Central Pacific overland train, which will arrive here at 12:15 o'clock this afternoon, will bring no Eastern mail on account of the snow blockades on the Union Pacific east of Ogden.

W. J. Boyle, Excursion Manager of the Santa Fe in Southern California, arrived yesterday from the south.

W. J. Leahy, Traveling Passenger Agent of the Rock Island for New York, is in the city.

STONE'S TYPE-WRITERS.

Counselor Durst Thinks the Bill for Them Should Be Paid.

It seems likely now that the Superintendent of schools will approve the bills for the twenty type-writers that ex-Director C. B. Stone took upon himself to purchase for the Commercial School. Superintendent Anderson refused to approve them because Stone had no authority to contract such a large bill, or any bill in excess of $100. Superintendent Swett asked the advice of City and County Attorney Durst in relation to them, and that official has replied that in his opinion they must be paid.

He explains that while the Director causing such purchases to be made had received no authority therefor, yet the board allowed the demands and ordered them paid, thus assuming to ratify the purchase. There is no question that the Director exceeded his authority in making the several purchases, and there can be no pretense that an "urgent necessity" for such purchase existed.

The demands could not at the time of the purchase have been enforced against the city. But the want of authority on the part of the Director was remedied by the board in ratifying the Director's unauthorized act. The board being vested with power to confer authority in advance on a School Director to purchase for the Commercial School the type-writers ordered, its subsequent allowance of the demand therefore accomplished a ratification. On this ground those demands were legal and should be approved by the Superintendent.

HARBOR COMMISSIONERS.

Postmaster Backus' Request for Reduction of Rent Refused.

At the meeting of the State Board of Harbor Commissioners a lengthy communication was received from Postmaster Backus asking that the contemplated increase of rent from $100 to $150 per month of Station D at the foot of Market street be not enforced until the commencement of the next fiscal year. The request was denied.

The employes of the Harbor Commissioners presented to the board a handsome engrossed memorial to Governor W. Tilzhman, Secretary of the board, which was accepted, and will be hung in the meeting-room of the Commissioners. S. P. Rogers made the presentation speech.

The advertising privileges at the new ferry structure were awarded to Swan & Stein at a monthly rental of $200. V. P. Mitchell had the privilege at the old structure for $110 a month.

Wards of the State Now.

John Thompson, convicted of burglary, was sentenced to two years in San Quentin yesterday by Judge Angellotti, sitting in Department 12